In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 2, without prejudice, and amend claims 1-9 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel ~~having~~comprising a disk and a rim for mounting a pneumatic tire joined to a peripheral edge of the disk, the rim having left and right cylindrical bead seats with a hump which protrudes ~~thereon~~on one of said bead seats and left and right annular rim flanges joined to and extending ~~wheel radially outwardly~~radially outward from outer side edges of the bead seats,

wherein a ring-like ~~thick~~ element extending along a circumferential direction of the wheel is provided on a portion of the bead seat located between the hump and radially inward rim flange of the ~~rim located on the inner side of a vehicle when attached thereto.~~rim,

wherein a cross-section area of the ring-like element is 0.1 to 4.0 times larger than the cross-section area represented by a product (E×T) in a radial cross section taken along a plane which passes through an axis of rotation of the wheel, wherein (E) is a sum of a thickness (Ft) of the rim flange located on the inner side of a vehicle when attached thereto and a wheel width direction length (Ew) of the bead seat portion, and (T) is a thickness of a portion of the rim body adjacent to the hump, and

wherein said ring-like element is provided only on the portion of the bead seat located on the inner side of the wheel when the wheel is mounted on the vehicle.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel according to claim 1, wherein the ~~thick~~ring-like element is provided on a radially inner side of an outer side end of the bead seat portion opposed to the rim flange.

4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel according to claim 1, wherein the ~~thick~~ring-like element is unitarily formed on a radially inner side of the bead seat portion.

5. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel according to claim 1, wherein the ~~thick~~ring-like element is formed from a ring member which is fixed to a radially inner side of the bead seat portion.

6. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel according to claim 5, wherein the ring member is formed of a material which is lower in specific gravity and/or has a rigidity higher than that of the bead seat.

7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~ wheel according to claim 6, wherein the ring member is formed of an alloy of magnesium.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~—wheel according to claim 1 wherein the disk and the rim are formed of lightweight metal.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~tire~~—wheel according to claim 8, wherein the lightweight metal is an alloy of aluminum or magnesium.